

Amendments to the Specification

Please delete paragraph [0013], which appears in the specification at page 3, lines 14-21, and substitute the following paragraph [0013] in place thereof.

[0013] The polymeric resin in the grout composition can comprise a single polymer or a plurality of polymers, such as one or more acrylic latex polymers. Examples of suitable acrylic latex polymers include homopolymers of acrylate, homopolymers of methacrylate, and copolymers of acrylate and methacrylate. In addition to any solvent in the polymeric resin, the grout composition can further comprise one or more additional solvents. Solvents can be added in an amount sufficient to improve the workability of the composition. For example, the viscosity of the grout composition can be adjusted such that it is not less than about 24000 Poise centipoise (and preferably not more than about 88000 Poise centipoise).

Please insert the following five paragraphs immediately following paragraph [0019] on page 4, line 30, of the specification and re-number the ensuing paragraphs accordingly.

[0020] The invention includes compositions in which the latex comprises a plurality of acrylic polymers.

[0021] The containers described herein can include a piston having a face that urges the composition through the nozzle upon application of force pressure to the piston. The shape of the container can be adapted to fit a caulking gun, whereby the caulking gun can be used to apply pressure to the second face of the piston and dispense the composition through the nozzle. The dispensing end of the nozzle can, for example, be adapted to fit between ceramic tiles spaced not less than 0.5, 0.25, or 0.125 inch apart.

[0022] In another embodiment of the container described herein, the dispensing end of the nozzle defines an orifice through which the composition can be dispensed and a shaping edge adjacent the orifice, whereby the surface of the dispensed composition can be shaped by sliding

the shaping edge along the surface. The shaping edge can have a rounded shape for imparting a concave shape to the surface of the dispensed composition when the shaping edge is slid along the surface.

[0023] The nozzle of the container described herein can include a stabilizing member for sliding against a tiled surface while dispensing the composition. The stabilizing member can be unitary with the nozzle.

[0024] In the methods described herein, the interstices can be filled by applying the composition to the tiled surface, urging the composition into the interstices, and thereafter removing excess composition not contained within the interstices.